

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00618 221221Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /084 W
-----082834 222316Z /15

R 220856Z MAR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5880
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0618

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IZ, FR
SUBJ: IRAQI PURCHASE OF MIRAGE FIGHTERS

REF: 77 BAGHDAD 1450

1. FOR SOME MONTHS IT HAS BEEN KNOWN TO BAGHDAD
DIPLOMATIC CIRCUIT THAT IRAQIS HAVE REDUCED ORDER OF
MIRAGE FIGHTERS FROM 72 TO 36. USUALLY KNOWLEDGEABLE
MILITARY ATTACHES HAVE DESCRIBED THIS AS PREDICTABLE
OUTCOME OF IRAQI BARGAINING MANEUVERS. IT WOULD
NOT BE FIRST TIME IRAQIS HAD TRIED TO BEAT DOWN UNIT
PRICES BY TALKING OF A LARGER QUANTITY THAN THEY INTENDED
TO BUY. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN SKEPTICISM OF IRAQI ABSORPTIVE
CAPACITY FOR EVEN 36 MIRAGES GIVEN TRAINING AND
RECRUITMENT BOTTLENECKS.

2. FRENCH HAVE BEEN VERY TIGHT-LIPPED ABOUT WHOLE AFFAIR.
FRENCH EMBOFF, HOWEVER, TOLD ME MARCH 19 THAT REAL
MOTIVE OF IRAQIS IS TO OBTAIN 36 EVEN MORE ADVANCED
AIRCRAFT AS SECOND HALF OF THE DEAL. HE WAS NOT SPECIFIC
ABOUT TYPE AND DID NOT KNOW WHETHER HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD
GO ALONG WITH THE IDEA.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA00618
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0123
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From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780340/aaaabhdi.tel
Line Count: 55
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c61761c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Reference: 77 BAGHDAD 1450
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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